ABSTRACT

The invention provides, in a general sense, a new labeling strategy employing ^{99m}Tc chelated with ethylenedicysteine (EC). EC is conjugated with a variety of ligands and chelated to ^{99m}Tc for use as an imaging agent for tissue-specific diseases. The drug conjugates of the invention may also be used as a prognostic tool or as a tool to deliver therapeutics to specific sites within a mammalian body. Kits for use in tissue-specific disease imaging are also provided.

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